

**A NEW SPECIES OF GLAUCIAS KIRKALDY FROM  
NEW GUINEA (HETEROPTERA: PENTATOMIDAE)**

By HERBERT RUCKES<sup>1</sup>

Among the many insects collected during the Fifth Archbold Expedition to New Guinea in 1956, conducted under the auspices of the American Museum's Department of Mammals, the following striking new species of the Australasian genus *Glaucias* Kirkaldy has appeared. While there is only one specimen at hand, that one is so distinctive and spectacularly colored that it warrants a name and place of its own.

***Glaucias spectabilis*, n. sp.**

Oval, robust, large (17.5 mm. long), semiglossy, and quite convex dorsally; punctures fine to medium in size, sparsely distributed except on the hemelytra, and concolorous with the background; above testaceous with black margins as hereinafter specified; below paler testaceous anteriorly, darker so posteriorly; antennae entirely piceous.

Head slightly longer than wide between the eyes (115×110), flattish, transversely and obliquely finely rugose as is typical for the genus; margins conspicuously piceous, moderately sinuate before the eyes, then convexly curved to a moderately rounded apex; juga slightly longer than the tylus, leaving a shallow, rectilinear sinus apically, tip of tylus piceous; eyes with a purplish cast, ocelli large, bright topaz and almost three times as far apart as distant from the eyes; antennae more than half of the length of the body, all segments piceous and clothed with a dense cover of golden setae; segmental ratios: 30/60/90/110/105, i.e., segment II twice as long as one and two-thirds as long as III, segment IV the longest; external denticle of the antennal tubercle and a small blotch above it, piceous.

Pronotum not quite two and a half times as wide across the humeri as long medially (390×160); anterior margin shallowly excavated, subcalloused, subtruncate centrally, then obliquely truncate behind the eyes, a small, punctured, piceous spot at its middle; anterolateral margins straight, and conspicuously piceous both above and below; humeri slightly tumid with a large fuscous to piceous, circular patch near each lateral angle; punctures mixed,

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both fine and medium, for the most part concolorous, a few of the central ones showing reddish tints.

Scutellum about as long as wide at the base ( $160 \times 155$ ), the punctures concolorous, the coarsest ones more centrally placed, rather wide-spaced; basal angles neither calloused nor foveolate; a large elliptical fuscous to piceous patch on each margin just before the apex; apex moderately rounded. Hemelytra more densely and uniformly punctured than other parts, the basal third of the costal margin conspicuously piceous; membrane hyaline, uncolored, veins numerous and subparallel. Connexivum exposed, the extreme margin and apical half of each segment piceous, the basal half dark testaceous; apical segmental angles rectilinear and slightly produced.

Under surface of head and thoracic pleura very finely and densely concolorously punctured; lateral portion of the abdomen finely rugulose, as is typical for the genus. Mesosternum with a well-defined, but not high, carina which is uniform in diameter throughout. Metasternum mildly elevated into a flat-topped, hexagonal plate, perceptibly narrowed posteriorly and obsolescently notched there. Median abdominal tubercle short, stout, and reaching the metasternum. Coxae and trochanters pale yellowish, femora bright green becoming piceous apically, tibiae and tarsi piceous with a dense golden-setose cover. Rostrum reaching the abdominal tubercle, basal three segments pale, apical one fuscous; segmental ratios: 50/80/70/60, i.e., segment II the longest, the last three segments becoming progressively shorter. Spiracles concolorous. Apical third of each abdominal submargin provided with a large piceous triangle.

Basal plates of the female genital valves roundly triangular, each a little wider than long, with the inner apical area of each bearing a large fuscous patch on its crest.

Described from one specimen.

Holotype: Female: 17.5 mm. long, 9.75 mm. wide across the humeri. Abaleti, Rossel Island, Papua, New Guinea; September 29, 1956 (J. L. Brass). Deposited in the American Museum of Natural History.

Apparently a relative of *Glaucias ludekingii* (Vollenhoven), based on the similarity of the construction of the mesosternum, and metasternum, the equivalent ratios of both antennal and rostral segments, the length of the rostrum, the form and size of the basal abdominal tubercle, the presence of two large piceous patches near the apex of the scutellum, the broad black margins of the head, anterolateral margins of the pronotum and the apical portions of

the abdominal segments, the piceous antennae, tibiae and tarsi, and the green femora. In contrast with Vollenhoven's type, the species *spectabilis* differs in being more convex and more glossy dorsally, with finer puncturation, as well as being entirely differently colored. The distinguishing characteristics that set this new species off from others in the genus are the striking yellow and black contrasting combination of colors, the incised nature of the apex of the head, and the very large topaz ocelli.

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### NOTES ON POMPILID WASPS THAT DO NOT DIG BURROWS TO BURY THEIR SPIDER PREY

By B. J. KASTON<sup>1</sup>

For a number of years, in the course of collecting and studying spiders themselves, I have been accumulating data on spider parasites. Brief articles on dipterous and mermithid parasites have already been published by me (Kaston, 1937, 1945) but as yet my notes on the hymenopterous parasites have not been completed.

The best known and most commonly reported parasites are the ichneumons belonging to *Polysphincta* and related genera. The larva of the parasite can be seen attached to the outside of the spider's body, in most cases on the abdomen of the host. This is in marked contrast to the situation when the parasite is a dipteran, whose larva feeds *within* the body of its host. Consequently, any spider found with a larva, or the egg of a parasite, on the outside of its body was assumed by me to be parasitized by an ichneumon. In many cases, because of the small size of the parasite the spider was not saved alive at the time of collection, since the parasite was not then noticed. In such cases the parasite would come to my attention only when the spiders were brought out later for study, after they had been preserved in alcohol. In other cases, even though the spider and its parasite may have been kept alive in the laboratory for a time, I was unsuccessful in rearing the parasite to maturity. One that I did succeed in rearing turned out to be, much to my astonishment, not an ichneumon, but a pompilid wasp.

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